

March 2008—Kohler press release

Kohler Manufactures Entire Gasoline Generator Product Line With Low Carbon Monoxide Emission Technology

Complete Gasoline Generator Line From Kohler Reduces Carbon Monoxide Emissions by 99 Percent

Kohler, Wis. • March 2008 • Kohler Power Systems, the market leader in gasoline-powered marine generators, has committed to manufacturing only low carbon monoxide (CO) emission gasoline generators and no longer produces the traditional carbureted gasoline units. The KOHLER low CO gasoline generators, available from 5-15 kW, significantly reduce CO emissions by 99 percent, which both EPA emissions and Kohler reliability tests confirm.

KOHLER gasoline generators exceed both CARB and EPA standards for CO and HC+ (hydrocarbons) and NOx (nitrogen oxides) emission levels, and have received certification from both organizations. Since Kohler first introduced its low CO units in 2006, a significant number of pleasure-craft brands include Kohler gasoline generators onboard.

“We’ve replaced the carburetor with a computer-controlled engine that uses electronic fuel injection, which is much more responsive and reduces the carbon monoxide emitted from gasoline-powered generators,” said Mike Bingen, director for Kohler Power Systems marine generators.

“What’s also significant about this line of low carbon monoxide generators is that we’ve engineered them from simple access and service if necessary,” said Bingen, recognizing that the one-side serviceability of the fuel filter, cooling system and lubrication system is attractive to boat owners. The new bulkhead installation panel also makes installation easier due to external connections to the generator. KOHLER low carbon monoxide generators also feature significantly fewer parts than competitive models.

Maintaining a safe temperature using the generator catalyst technology is another innovation Kohler has been able to offer. “We’ve engineered a way to utilize water to cool the generator catalyst, which will keep all the under-the-deck generator components cool and therefore, safe to the touch.” Kohler has secured a patent on this cool catalyst technology, said Bingen.

Kohler Power Systems has also introduced an engine control module to its new line of gasoline generators, which is unique to the market, said Bingen. The module and the patented Kohler Advanced Digital Control work in harmony to optimize all generator and engine functions so that the engine adapts to the requirements of use during its lifetime.

Generator features

- Four-cycle, two-cylinder gasoline engine (3600 RPM at 60 Hz) with an electronic governor. The engine meets U.S. Coast Guard safety standards for electrical systems and gasoline-fuel systems (33CFR183).
- The sequential port, throttle body fuel-injected system offers a fuel savings of up to 25% over current KOHLER gasoline generator models.
- Kohler offers the first and only integrated fuel pump cooler, which requires no fuel return line to the fuel tank. A high-pressure pump uses sea water as a cooling medium for the internal fuel return. This internal fuel “loop” eliminates vapor-loc and the need for an additional return fuel line. This allows for a lower overall installation and allows for easier retrofit to older boats.
- The 5 and 7.3ECD generators are compact and lightweight. Both the 5kW and 7.3kW KOHLER generators are 17.45"W x 28.45"L x 17.25"H and weigh only 200 lbs.
- Sound-shielded generator-set installations are simplified with the use of the bulkhead connection panel.
- Kohler gasoline generators remain on the quietest in the market. Optional aluminum sound shields reduce the generator sound to 68 dBA at 1 meter.

Advanced Digital Control

Never before has Kohler Power Systems offered a more advanced microprocessor controller on its range of marine generators. The KOHLER Advanced Digital Control (ADC) monitors 13 operational conditions and delivers more precise voltage and frequency regulation for today’s sophisticated boating electronics. The ADC offers enhanced diagnostic and critical generator operational parameters on an easy-to-read seven-segment alphanumeric display. The ADC displays runtime hours, cyclic crank status, and system fault codes.

Remote Digital Gauge

Complete systems monitoring includes optional three-inch Remote Digital Gauge which is available on all models. The remote digital gauge provides starting/stopping and complete systems monitoring from a location outside of the engine room (i.e. at the yacht’s helm or distribution panel).

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